



PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: )  
Peter A. Liken et al. )  
Serial No. 09/841,032 )  
Filed: April 24, 2001 )  
Title: SUPPORT RACK FOR )  
VIBRATORY TESTING OF )  
PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARDS )

Examiner: Not Yet Known

Art Unit: 2855

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TC 2800 MAIL ROOM  
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants submit this Preliminary Amendment before any action by the Patent & Trademark Office on this application.

Kindly amend as follows:

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Kindly accept the changes in Figure 1 as indicated in red on the attached sheet, which more easily and accurately indicate the components disclosed in the specification. No new matter has been entered.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Rewrite the first paragraph on page 7, lines 3-14, to read as follows:

--Referring particularly to FIGURES 1 and 2, the rack 10 includes a first adjustment mechanism 47 by which the dimension D1 may be selected in predetermined increments. Such mechanism 47 includes first and second rows of apertures 49, 51, respectively, in the first end

panel 13 and third and fourth rows of apertures 53, 55, respectively, in the second end panel 15. While each such row 49, 51, 53, 55 may have a single row component 57 of apertures, smaller adjustment increments are facilitated when each row 49, 51, 53, 55 includes a side-by-side pair of such components 57 with particular apertures of one component, e.g., component 57a, being slightly vertically "staggered" from the corresponding apertures of the adjacent component 57b. Irrespective of whether rows or row components are used, the apertures 59 of a row component 57 are preferably arranged substantially vertically from one another.--

Rewrite the second paragraph on page 7, lines 15-20, to read as follows:

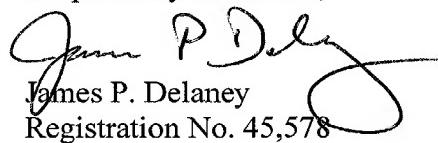
--The first adjustment mechanism 47 also includes a plurality of shoulder screws 61, four in the preferred embodiment. Each screw 61 extends through a respective aperture 59 in one of the four rows 49, 51, 53, 55, and threads into the retention member 39. Apertures 59 are preferably located and selected in such a way that in any vertical position of the retention member 39, such retention member 39 is parallel to the engagement platform 29 when the rack 10 is assembled for use.--

#### REMARKS

It is believed examination of the application will be facilitated by the above adjustments. The amendments have been made to correct a numbering error in the specification and to provide a numeral mistakenly left out of Figure 1. No new matter has been entered.

Applicants believe that all claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request that this application be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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